## **Rodney D. Oliver**

Pro Se Defendant

11074 Oso Ave

Chatsworth CA 91311

Rodneyolivermusic@gmail.com

July 25,2025

Hon. Denise L. Cote

**United States District Court** 

Southern District of New York

500 Pearl Street

New York, NY 10007

Re: Oliver v. The Barry White Family Trust

Case No. 1:24-cv-07509 (DLC)

Response to Plaintiffs' Motion for Sanctions

#### Dear Judge Cote:

I respectfully submit this letter in response to Plaintiffs' Motion for Sanctions. I am appearing pro se and have done my best to comply with the Court's orders and discovery requirements under challenging personal and legal circumstances. I understand the seriousness of the Court's expectations, and I am doing everything in my power to meet them.

Since the initial case management conference, I have been actively seeking legal representation and have also worked closely with the SDNY Federal Pro Se Clinic for guidance. While I remain unrepresented, I have made every effort to follow proper procedures and timelines, and to respond to all discovery demands in good faith.

I provided document productions on July 15 and July 18, which included files prepared with descriptive labeling and reference points in lieu of traditional Bates stamping. These were submitted in response to discovery demands and further clarified through meet-and-confer correspondence. I also consented to scheduling deposition dates and agreed to extend the discovery deadline to facilitate cooperation.

I understand that the Court prefers to address substantive legal arguments, such as ownership and standing, at the summary judgment stage. Therefore, I am not using this letter to refute Plaintiffs' claims point by point, but rather to affirm my commitment to resolving this case fairly and on the merits.

I respectfully request that the Court allow the case to proceed to summary judgment. Plaintiffs' motion for default judgment or striking of defenses is not warranted where I have made sincere and substantial efforts to comply. Procedural sanctions that would terminate my ability to present my defense would, in my view, be unjust.

In addition, I respectfully note that I should not be held responsible for the actions or omissions of Ms. Necole Key, who is not a party to this litigation and who operates independently of me. She declined to provide certain emails upon request, citing an ongoing obligation to respond to Plaintiffs' counsel directly.

Despite these challenges, I remain fully committed to fulfilling all obligations and appearing at depositions or hearings as required. I am eager to have the facts heard and judged properly and respectfully ask that I be given the opportunity to do so.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

/s/Rodney D. Oliver

Pro Se Defendant

11074 Oso Ave

Chatsworth CA 91311

Rodnevolivermusic@gmail.com









:

Jacob

Jacob Prince
SDNY Federal Pro Se
Clinic
City Bar Justice Center
(332) 228-2364



Rodney Jul 1

Thank you for your continue guidance. OK I'll reserve



## **DEFENDANTS ANSWERS/RESPONSES AND PRODUCTIOM**

7 messages

Rodney < rodneyolivermusic@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 10:07 AM

To: Dorothy Weber <dorothy@musiclaw.com>, jameyers68@gmail.com

Ms. Weber

I have attached everything I can in my possession. I haven't continued to be working in good faith despite your claims of me having not too. I even went as far as to prepare them as close as I possibly could to the legal standard and what you're used to to avoid any confusion but it seems that that delay has caused me scrutiny in court

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To: Rodney <rodneyolivermusic@gmail.com>, Judith Meyers <judy@musiclaw.com>

Dear Mr. Oliver: Would you kind provide the name of the counsel to whom you refer in your privilege log. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Dorothy M. Weber, Esq.

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494 Eighth Avenue, Suite 600

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Case 1:24-cv-07509-DLC Document 143 Filed 07/25/25 Page 5 of 22

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Sincerely,

Ricardo Rosado

Legal Assistant to Dorothy M. Weber, Esq.

Herbsman, Hafer, Weber & Frisch, LLP

494 Eighth Avenue, 6th Floor

New York, New York 10001

Phone: 646 – 795 - 6064

Fax: (212) 956-6471

Email: ricardo@musiclaw.com

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Thanks for your attention to this Rodney

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E-Mail: dorothy@musiclaw.com

http://www.linkedin.com/in/dorothymweberesq/

Cc: Ricardo Rosado <ricardo@musiclaw.com>, Judith Meyers <judy@musiclaw.com>, Joe Cooley <cooleyjoe011@graafi.e3thsv-07509-DLC Document 143 Filed 07/25/25 Page 7 of 22

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Subject: Re: DEFENDANTS ANSWERS/RESPONSES AND PRODUCTIOM

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Sincerely,

Ricardo Rosado

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## **Discovery Meet and Confer**

3 messages

**Dorothy Weber** <dorothy@musiclaw.com>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 8:37 AM

To: Rodney <rodneyolivermusic@gmail.com>, Joe Cooley <cooleyjoe011@gmail.com>

Gentlemen: We would like to ask the court for a one month extension on fact discovery to give us time to set up the depositions on mutually agreeable dates and also permit time for potential mediation. We suggest September 1, 2025 and we agree that it will not otherwise affect any of the dates in the order. Please let me know so I can advise the Court.

Thank you in advance.

Very truly yours,

Dorothy M. Weber, Esq.

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Hello Ms. Weber

That is fine with Both of 4 sy-07509-DLC Document 143 Filed 07/25/25 Page 11 of 22

I will be sending over my response and production by the end of the day. I am proof reading my answers now.

Thank you

**Rodney Oliver** 

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Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 11:37 AM

To: Rodney <rodneyolivermusic@gmail.com> Cc: Joe Cooley <cooleyjoe011@gmail.com>

Thank you both...I will send you a draft of the letter for your approval before we send it to the Court



## **DISCOVERY REQUEST**

2 messages

Rodney < rodneyolivermusic@gmail.com>

Wed, Jul 16, 2025 at 7:37 AM

To: Dorothy Weber <dorothy@musiclaw.com>, Joe Cooley <cooleyjoe011@gmail.com>, jameyers68@gmail.com

Ms Weber

I have been working around the clock to gather all that I could. Spent the night learning about bates numbering. I will be numbering them today and send them to you as soon as I am finished. I am not refusing or trying to delay. Please stop saying I am. I am doing all I can.

Regarding Deposition. I request to do so remotely. I do not have the funds to go to New York.

Thank you

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Wed, Jul 16, 2025 at 9:13 AM

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Dear Mr. Oliver: We appreciate the update and look forward to receiving the documents. After we receive your documents, we can certainly discuss a remote, video deposition but it will be held in a law office in California with our local counsel attending in person. I will be conducting the deposition remotely and it will be video and stenographic.

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# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Barry White Family Trust U/A/D December 19, 1980, Plaintiff,

v.

Rodney David Oliver,

Defendant.

Case No. 1:24-cv-07509 (DLC)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on July 25, 2025, I caused a true and correct copy of the attached

MOTION TO COMPEL PRODUCTION OF

Response to Plaintiffs' Motion for Sanctions

to be served via email upon the following:

Dorothy M. Weber, Esq.
Shukat Arrow Hafer Weber & Herbsman, LLP
494 8th Avenue, Suite 600
New York, NY 10001
Email: dorothy@musiclaw.com

Judith Ann Meyers, Pro Se Barry White Family Trust U/A/D December 19, 1980 Email: jameyers68@gmail.com

Joe Cooley, Pro Se 248 E 157th Street Gardena, CA 90248

Email: cooleyjoe011@gmail.com

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Rodney David Oliver Rodney David Oliver (Pro Se Defendant) 11074 Oso Avenue Chatsworth, CA 91311 rodneyolivermusic@gmail.com

Dated: July 25, 2025